THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) As per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition No. 465/86 dated 10.12.1996, a survey was conducted during the year 1997 for identification of child labour in hazardous and non-hazardous employment. No girl child bonded labourers were found in Andhra Pradesh during the above mentioned survey.

(b) No, Sir. During the year 2002 as per the information received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh only two child bonded labourers were detected in Andhra Pradesh. They were released and rehabilitated and prosecution was launched against the offenders.

(c) Industry-wise/Sector-wise data on working children is not maintained.

As per the information received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh, it is not correct to say that 2,47,800 children were employed in the Cotton fields. However, during the year 2000, through a special drive, 2951 girl child labourers were detected in Cotton fields in the State.

(d) Bonded Labourers including child-bonded labourers freed from bondage are rehabilitated under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme and other poverty alleviation programmes being implemented in States. In addition, two Schemes exclusively for the benefit of children withdrawn from work namely, the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) and Grant-in-Aid to voluntary organizations, have been launched. Under the Scheme of NCLPs, 100 National Child Labour Projects have been started in 13 child labour endemic States to provide formal/non-formal education, occupational training, stipend, nutrition, health care etc. for the children withdrawn from work.

Deposit of Employees Provident Fund

3105. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Provident Fund of the employees of Punjab Wakf Board is not being deposited with the Provident Fund Commissioner;

(b) if so, since when and what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what action has been taken against those responsible for this state of affairs; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to deposit the employees Provident Fund with the Provident Fund Commissioner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Punjab Wakf Board is not covered under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

(b) to (d) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

Pending NCLP

3106. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposals sent by the State Government of Maharashtra under the Central Government's National Child Labour Project, are pending with the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Government has received proposals from the State Government of Maharashtra for setting up National Child Labour Projects in certain districts.

(c) No new projects have been sanctioned as yet during the current financial year.

Employment Exchanges in Chhattisgarh

3107. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employment exchanges in Chhattisgarh and the number of candidates registered for employment opportunity in these exchanges;

(b) the number of candidates still on the waiting list of job seekers in each employment exchange in the State, district-wise;

(c) the rate of registration of new candidates every year; and

(d) the details of ratio of job opportunities provided by each exchange to the registrants for the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) At present, 18 employment exchanges are functioning in the State of Chhattisgarh. The number of